

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to all the drawings and replace the sheets filed June 14, 2005 plus added new sheets.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets and New Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-39 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the figures, specification and claims 1, 22, 25, 26, 29, 32, 34 and 38 have been amended to correct alleged informalities. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in the specification at, for example, Figs. 6a-6f and 7a-7e. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Reichle in the July 1, 2009 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the previous §§ 102(b) and 103(a) rejections.

I. Objection to the Drawings

The Office Action objects to the drawings. In particular, the Office Action asserts Figs. 15C, 16C and 16D submitted on January 2, 2009 were incorrectly labeled as replacement sheets, rather than new sheets. New sheets that correspond with Figs. 15C, 16C and 16D have been filed.

Regarding Fig. 16D, Fig. 16D has been amended to obviate the objection.

Regarding removal of descriptive text and new text added to proposed new figures, Figs. 1B, 6A-F, 16B, 23 and 30B have been amended to obviate the objection.

Regarding claims 26, 27, 38 and 39, as discussed during the interview, Fig. 15B and the specification have been amended to obviate the objection.

Regarding Figs. 30A and 30B, Figs. 30A and 30B have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

Regarding the figures that are not consistent with the descriptions, a new set of figures are provided to obviate the objection.

Regarding the objection that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims, Fig. 15B and the specification have been amended to obviate the objection.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

The Office Action rejects the specification under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. The specification has been amended to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

III. Objection to the Specification

The Office Action objects to the disclosure.

Regarding objection 1, the Office Action alleges that the claims are still not commensurate with the Summary of the Invention. As discussed during the interview, claim 1 has been amended to obviate the objection.

Regarding objection 2, the figures have been amended to obviate the objection.

Regarding objection 3, Applicants respectfully assert that page 4, line 1 of the specification is correct as currently recited.

Regarding objection 4, as discussed during the interview, the figures and claim 1 have been amended to obviate the objection.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections to the disclosure is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the Amendment filed January 2, 2009 under 35 U.S.C. §132(a). In particular, the Office Action alleges new matter is introduced into the disclosure. As discussed during the interview, the figures and the specification have been amended to obviate the objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection of the January 2, 2009 Amendment is respectfully requested.

IV. Objection of the Claims

The Office Action objects to claims 26-29, 32-34, 38 and 39. Claims 26, 32, 34 and 38 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

V. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 8-39 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Regarding claims 1, 22, 25, 29 and 38, claims 1, 22, 25, 29 and 38 have been amended to obviate the rejection. In particular, claim 22 has been amended to recite "the absorber unit being removably received by the housing for the absorber unit"; claim 25 has been amended to recite "the housing for the absorber unit includes a plurality of laminated absorber units" (claim 29 has also been similarly amended); and claim 38 has been amended to recite "the absorber is removably received by the housing, and at least in a portion of the surface sheet is located between the absorbent product main body and the housing for the absorber." Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 8-39 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the interview, claim 1 has been amended to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 and 8-39 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As discussed during the interview, Claim 1 has been amended to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims is respectfully requested.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Obert H. Chu
Registration No. 52,744

JAO:OHC/hjr

Attachments:

Replacement Sheets and New Sheets (Figs. 1-30)
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: July 30, 2009

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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